

January 7, 2003

Christine Godfrey, Chief
Regulatory Division
New England District
Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Dear Chris:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a report regarding the Connecticut Route 11 Project. EPA New England contracted with Weston Solutions, Inc., and its subcontractor, Transportation Planning and Design, Inc. (TPD), to further evaluate the practicability of the upgrade alternatives for the Route 11 Project. As you recall, EPA raised a number of questions regarding this issue that it posed to both the ConnDOT and FHWA. Both agencies responded with useful information, but several key questions remained. We understood that neither ConnDOT nor FHWA could afford the staff resources and time necessary to develop a complete and thorough response to those remaining questions, so EPA hired TPD to do so.

We forward this recently completed report for your information in advance of the interagency principals meeting being scheduled for late January. Copies also were forwarded to the ConnDOT, FHWA, and USFWS. As you will read, TPD concludes that the community sensitive upgrade alternative could satisfy the safety deficiencies and likely satisfy the capacity deficiencies identified for Routes 82 and 85. TPD raises several other interesting points in its report and suggests other potential alternatives not evaluated in the DEIS and subsequent NEPA documents.

After reading the report, if you and/or your staff would like to discuss the TPD report, I will arrange a meeting. Also, if you would like the opportunity to discuss the TPD report directly with its staff, I could arrange for the TPD project manager to attend that meeting. Please let me know.

If there are any questions regarding this report, please call me at 617-918-1628.

Sincerely,

Matt Schweisberg
Office of Ecosystem Protection

Enclosure

January 7, 2003

Amy Jackson-Grove
Federal Highway Administration
Connecticut Division
628-2 Hebron Avenue, Suite 303
Glastonbury, CT 06033-5007

Dear Amy:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a report regarding the Connecticut Route 11 Project. EPA New England contracted with Weston Solutions, Inc., and its subcontractor, Transportation Planning and Design, Inc. (TPD), to further evaluate the practicability of the upgrade alternatives for the Route 11 Project. As you recall, EPA raised a number of questions regarding this issue that it posed to both the ConnDOT and FHWA. Both agencies responded with useful information, but several key questions remained. We understood that neither ConnDOT nor FHWA could afford the staff resources and time necessary to develop a complete and thorough response to those remaining questions, so EPA hired TPD to do so.

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Sincerely,

Matt Schweisberg
Office of Ecosystem Protection

Enclosure

January 7, 2003

Michael Bartlett, Supervisor
New England Field Office
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, NH 03301-5087

Dear Mike:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a report regarding the Connecticut Route 11 Project. EPA New England contracted with Weston Solutions, Inc., and its subcontractor, Transportation Planning and Design, Inc. (TPD), to further evaluate the practicability of the upgrade alternatives for the Route 11 Project. As you recall, EPA raised a number of questions regarding this issue that it posed to both the ConnDOT and FHWA. Both agencies responded with useful information, but several key questions remained. We understood that neither ConnDOT nor FHWA could afford the staff resources and time necessary to develop a complete and thorough response to those remaining questions, so EPA hired TPD to do so.

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Sincerely,

Matt Schweisberg
Office of Ecosystem Protection

Enclosure

January 7, 2003

Edgar T. Hurle
Director of Environmental Planning
Bureau of Policy and Planning
Connecticut Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 317546
Newington, CT 06131-7546

Dear Ned:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a report regarding the Connecticut Route 11 Project. EPA New England contracted with Weston Solutions, Inc., and its subcontractor, Transportation Planning and Design, Inc. (TPD), to further evaluate the practicability of the upgrade alternatives for the Route 11 Project. As you recall, EPA raised a number of questions regarding this issue that it posed to both the ConnDOT and FHWA. Both agencies responded with useful information, but several key questions remained. We understood that neither ConnDOT nor FHWA could afford the staff resources and time necessary to develop a complete and thorough response to those remaining questions, so EPA hired TPD to do so.

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Sincerely,

Matt Schweisberg
Office of Ecosystem Protection

Enclosure